

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 JERUSA 00742 141421Z

ACTION NEA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SSM-01 MCT-01 NSC-05 TRSE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSCE-00 H-01 L-01 INR-05 PA-01

SP-02 HA-02 /041 W

-----101892 142336Z /13

R 141234Z MAR 78

FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 513

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L JERUSALEM 742

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PEPR, IS

SUBJ: WEST BANK REACTION TO TERRORIST ATTACK

REF: JERUSALEM 735

1. SUMMARY: ON MARCH 13 SEVERAL PRO-HASHEMITE MUSLIM NOTABLES EXPRESSED QUIET PRIDE IN MARCH 11 PALESTINIAN TERROTIST ATTACK. COMMANDO TEAM HAD MADE POINT PALESTINIANS COULD NOT BE IGNORED. CONSENSUS WAS THAT ACTION AIMED AS MUCH, IF NOT MORE, AT SADAT THAN ISRAELIS. ONLY CHRISTIAN PROFESSIONAL EXPRESSED DISAPPROVAL ON HUMANITARIAN AND POLITICAL GROUNDS. END SUMMARY.

2. AT SOCIAL FUNCTION MARCH 13 WHERE LEADING MUSLIN AND CHRISTIAN EAST JERUSALEMITES WERE PRESENT IN ADDITION TO MEMBERS OF THE CONSULAR COPRS, INDICATIONS WERE GIVEN OF HOW THEY VIEWED MARCH 11 TERRORIST ATTACK IN ISRAEL. WHILE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 JERUSA 00742 141421Z

THERE WERE INDIVIDUAL NUANCES, WEST BANKERS GENERALLY REGARDED ATTACK WITH QUIET PRIDE. COMANDO TEAM, KNOWING THEY WOULD BE KILLED, HAD SUCCEEDED IN MAKING POLITICAL POINT THAT PALESTINIANS COULD NOT BE IGNORED IN CURRENT ATTEMPTS UNDERWAY TO REACH A COMPREHENSIVE SETTLEMENT. IT WAS ALSO GENERALLY THOUGHT THAT OPERATION WAS AIMED AS MUCH AT SADAT AND CURRENT NEGOTIATING PROCESS AS AT ISRAELIS.

3. IN RESPONSE TO MY QUERY AS TO WHETHER KILLING OF UNARMED MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN ON A HOLIDAY PROJECTED THE KIND OF IMAGE PALESTINIANS WISHED TO HAVE OR WOULD BE LIKELY TO ASSIST IN THE REALIZATION OF THEIR POLITICAL GOALS, WEST BANKERS SHRUGGED THAT ACTION WAS STRICTLY POLITICAL IN MOTIVATION AND CIVILIAN CASUALTIES WERE INEVITABLE IN WAR. POSSIBLE HARDENING OF ISRAELI POSITION WAS OF SECONDARY IMPORTANCE COMPARED TO RAISING OF PALESTINIAN ISSUE IN SUCH A DRAMATIC MANNER. ANTICIPATED ISRAELI RETALIATION WAS APPARENTLY OF LITTLE CONCERN.

4. EXCEPTION TO FOREGOING WAS EUROPEAN EDUCATED CHRISTIAN PROFESSIONAL WEST BANKER. HE CONDEMNED TERRORIST ACTION ON HUMANITARIAN AND POLITICAL GROUNDS. HIS MAIN CONCERN WAS THE POLITICAL FALLOUT WOULD FURTHER COMPLICATE NEGOTIATIONS NOW IN TRAIN.

5. COMMENT: PEOPLE WHO EXPRESSED THE ABOVE VIEWS ARE EDUCATED PRO-HASHEMITE MODERATES. FACT THAT THEY CONDONE TERRORIST RAID ILLUSTRATES GULF SEPARATING PALESTINIANS FROM ISRAELIS, EVEN THOSE WHO HAVE LIVED IN CLOSE PROXIMITY AND HAVE HAD BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL CONTACTS WITH EACH OTHER FOR PAST 11 YEARS. IF THESE CONSERVATIVE, MATURE, MODERATES APPROVE OF RAID, WE CAN GUESS WHAT RADICALIZED YOUNGER GENERATION THINKS ABOUT IT.

NEWLIN

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 JERUSA 00742 141421Z

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WEST BANK, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, UNCONVENTIONAL WARFARE, TERRORISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978JERUSA00742
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780114-0106
Format: TEL
From: JERUSALEM
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780372/aaaacixf.tel
Line Count: 94
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: eceef5c7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: 78 JERUSALEM 735
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3343453
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WEST BANK REACTION TO TERRORIST ATTACK
TAGS: PINS, PEPR, IS
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/eceef5c7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014